



JOHN THURSTON

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ARKANSAS SECRETARY OF STATE

February 21, 2020

Honorable Larry Teague, Chairman
Honorable Lane Jean, Chairman
Joint Budget Committee
One Capitol Mall
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Senator Teague and Representative Jean:

On behalf of the Office of Secretary of State, I respectfully request that our fiscal year 2020-2021 appropriations bill be amended to provide for the following changes:

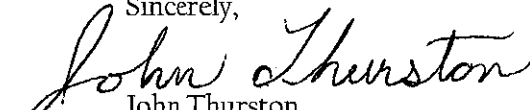
SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION-CAPITOL GROUNDS MONUMENT/MEMORIAL PRESERVATION.

We request that the amount for Item Number (01) for various operating & construction expenses for monument/memorial preservation be increased by \$50,000, from \$34,948 to \$84,948. Funding for the additional \$50,000 was received from the Gold Star Families Memorial fund as required maintenance fees upon completion and dedication of the Gold Star Families Memorial. The increased appropriation will enable the Secretary of State to expend these funds, as needed, for ongoing monument maintenance.

We request that an additional section be added to our appropriations bill to provide for a new appropriation to expend federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) grant funds which were received by the Secretary of State in February 2020 from the federal Election Assistance Commission. We request that an amount of \$5,500,000 be appropriated to permit the expenditure of the grant award of \$5,011,991, plus anticipated interest earned on the grant funds and any local sales and use tax rebates received in conjunction with taxable purchases.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Kurt Naumann at 501-680-0239 or kurt.naumann@sos.arkansas.gov.

Sincerely,


John Thurston
Secretary of State

Cc: Jennifer Rook, Bureau of Legislative Research